# Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
JORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

## IN RE: LITHIUM ION BATTERIES ANTITRUST LITIGATION

## This Order Relates to:

## **All Direct and Indirect Purchaser** Actions

**Case No.: 13-MD-2420 YGR** 

ORDER DENYING TOSHIBA CORPORATION'S MOTION TO SEAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Re: Dkt. No. 991

On December 14, 2015, Toshiba Corporation filed a motion to seal two exhibits in connection with its reply brief in support of its motion for summary judgment pursuant to Local Rule 79-5. (Dkt. No. 991.) Toshiba does not object to the public filing of the documents in question. (Dkt. No. 991-1.) Both documents are patent licensing agreements between Toshiba and others—Sanyo in the case of Exhibit B and Panasonic (then operating as Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.) in the case of Exhibit C.

Where a party files a motion to seal solely because the document at issue contains material "designated as confidential by the opposing party or a non-party pursuant to a protective order," the designating party is "required" to file a responsive declaration within four days "establishing that all of the designated material is sealable." Civ. L. R. 79-5(e).

On December 18, 2015, defendants Panasonic and Sanyo filed a declaration in support of sealing the documents in their entirety, on the basis that they "contain[] confidential, nonpublic, proprietary, and highly-sensitive business information about [defendants'] business practices and competitive positions." (Dkt. No. 997 at 2-3.)

Two different standards govern motions to seal. Pintos v. Pac. Creditors Ass'n, 565 F.3d 1106, 1115-16 (9th Cir. 2009) opinion amended and superseded on denial of reh'g, 605 F.3d 665 (9th Cir. 2010). For judicial records submitted, as here, in connection with a dispositive motion,

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United States District Court Northern District of California 

the party seeking to seal the record must demonstrate "compelling reasons" that would overcome
the public's right to view public records and documents, including judicial records. Id. (citing
Kamakana v. City & County of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006)). Parties must
provide sufficient support for sealing the material at issue. See Civil Local Rule 79-5(b) ("A
sealing order may issue only upon a request that establishes that the document, or portions thereof
are privileged, protectable as a trade secret or otherwise entitled to protection under the law
The request must be narrowly tailored to seek sealing only of sealable material "); Civil Local
Rule 79-5(d)(1)(A) (requiring "[a] declaration establishing that the document sought to be filed
under seal, or portions thereof, are sealable").

Plaintiffs oppose the sealing request, arguing Panasonic and Sanyo have failed to establish a compelling need to seal the documents in their entirety. (Dkt. No. 998.) The Court agrees and thus **Denies** the motion to seal without prejudice. Panasonic and Sanyo may file a renewed motion to seal these exhibits proposing specific redactions by no later than **March 30, 2016**. If no such motion is filed by the deadline, Toshiba shall file unredacted versions of the exhibits on the public docket by **April 1, 2016**.

This Order terminates Docket Number 991.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 24, 2016

YVONNE GONZALEZ ROGERS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE